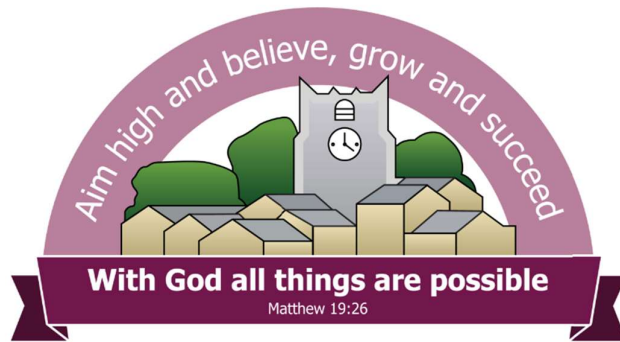




School Office Friday Update

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD	
Monday 21 st October	• Class 2 and 3 Book Look- Please join us in school at 3pm to look through your children's work.
Tuesday 22 nd October	• Churchtown Tots- 9.30am- All welcome. • Junior's after school sports club- Please see Parentpay for info and bookings. • Parent's evening- You will receive a message with your date and time.
Wednesday 23 rd October	• No swimming this week. • Parent's evening- You will receive a message with your date and time. • Coffee morning- 9am, all welcome for a cuppa and a chat. The main focus will be all things sleep related.
Thursday 24 th October	• Infants after school sports club- Please see Parentpay for info and booking. • Football League Match- Cavendish fields, Matlock. 4pm • Thursday Church- All welcome, 10.30am • Class 1 Stay and Play- 2.45pm. Families are invited to spend time with your child in the classroom.
Friday 25 th October	• Celebration Assembly- 3pm, you will receive an invitation if your child has been chosen to receive an award this week. • Football League Match- New date, match postponed on Thursday 17th October. • Last Day of Term.
Monday 28 th October	• School closed for half term
Tuesday 29 th October	• School closed for half term
Wednesday 30 th October	• School closed for half term

Thursday 31st October	• School closed for half term
Friday 1 st November	• School closed for half term

Other news:

- We still have places available for Breakfast club and our after school Sports clubs, you can book these via Parentpay or pop into the office. **These clubs are free of charge if you qualify for free school meals.**
- Thank you to everyone who supported the Scholastic book fair, It was lovely to see all the children choosing their new books. The school earn rewards for each book you buy and we now have lots of lovely new books for our school. Thank you!
- Just to remind you, if you pay for your child's school lunches these should be paid in **advance** of the meal being taken where possible. Thank you.
- Flu immunisations take place on 6th November, please follow this link opt in or out of the service for your child. <https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/f34f0808>
- Please ensure children have a water bottle in school every day.
- PE kits should be in school at all times.
- **Year 5 & 6- The third payment for Walesby Forest is due on Friday 25th October. Please contact the office if you have any questions or concerns.**
- **Healthy Snacks-** Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack to school to eat at morning break. **Please ensure this does not include chocolate, cake or sweets.**
- Our **SENCO**, Sian Arnold, will be in school every Wednesday. She will be available for any Parents who wish to speak with her. Sian is contactable 5 days a week during school hours through the school office.

FURTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
06/11/2024	Flu immunisation programme
12/11/2024	PTA Film club
15/11/2024	Children in Need
27/11/2024	Coffee morning
28/11/2024	Thursday Church
10/12/2024	Whole school panto trip
13/12/2024	PTA non-uniform for Christmas hamper items
17/12/2024	PTA Christmas Bingo
19/12/2024	Christmas dinner day
19/12/2024	Christmas Church Service
25/10/2024	Last day of term
04/11/2024	INSET
05/11/2024	School reopens
20/12/2024	Last day of term
06/01/2025	School reopens
14/02/2025	Last day of term
24/02/2025	INSET
25/02/2025	School reopens
04/04/2025	Last day of term
22/04/2025	School reopens
05/05/2025	Bank holiday- School closed
23/05/2025	Last day of term
02/06/2025	INSET
03/06/2025	School reopens
24/07/2025	Last day of term

In September 2013 the government introduced new regulations making it clear that Headteachers must not give approval for any leave of absence during term time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents are not entitled to take their children on holiday in term time. Planned absence can only be taken with the prior written approval of the headteacher. Each case will be considered on its own merits and the decision of the headteacher is final.

Any requests for term time leave should be made on a leave of absence request form available from the school office and handed in at least two school weeks before the first date of the requested absence whenever possible. You must have received written authorisation before your child can be absent from school.

If a request for leave is denied and the pupil is absent for 5 days or more then the school is expected to refer the case to the local authority. Parent/carers may be issued with a penalty notice fine or prosecution should leave of 5 days or more be taken which is not authorised by the Headteacher, or where repeated incidents of leave in term time for less than 5 days occur or where the unauthorised absence contributes to wider poor attendance that meets the legal threshold. If unpaid this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996

Absence deemed for the reason of unauthorised leave in term time will be marked in the register with the Attendance code G.

Further information regarding school attendance and penalty notices can be found on the DCC website <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/welfare-services/attendance/school-attendance.aspx>

Please see our Attendance policy on our school website for more details.

Please do not hesitate to contact us on 01629 732236 or by email info@darleychurchtown.derbyshire.sch.uk with any questions or queries.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS

Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.

2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any firework activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.

3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000 °C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER

If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.

5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME

If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.

6 BONFIRE SAFETY

If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.

7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"

Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES

Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are not toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.

10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children these techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20–30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUp
Wednesday

The
National
College